

AUTHENTICATION BROKER SERVICE

Abstract

A user is authenticated for a relying computing entity (e.g., an enterprise) through an authentication broker service, wherein a trust relationship exists between the relying computing entity and the authentication broker service. The authentication broker service has a trust relationship with the relying computing entity and the authentication service that issued the identity of the user. The relying computing entity asks the authentication broker service to authenticate the identity of the user. The authentication broker service captures the user's credential (or directs the authentication service to do so) and sends an authentication response (e.g., a token) to the relying computing entity in order to authenticate the identity of the user to the relying computing entity. The relying computing entity verifies the authentication response based on the trust relationship between the relying computing entity and the authentication broker service.